09/02/04 THU 09:04 FAX 8642337342 Appl. No. 09/643,979 Amdt. Dated September 2, 2004

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## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of the Claims:

1-69. (Cancelled)

70. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a tissue product, said method comprising:

forming a paper web from a cellulosic fibrous material and a <u>particulate</u> superabsorbent material, wherein said superabsorbent material comprises from about 0.1% to 3% by weight of said paper web, said superabsorbent material having a total swelling capacity of at least about 20 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material; and

at least partially drying said paper web;

wherein the tissue product is formed primarily from said paper web and optionally one or more additional paper webs, the tissue product having a basis weight less than about 100 grams per square meter.

- 71. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein said superabsorbent material is provided in a dry state.
- 72. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, further comprising pre-swelling said superabsorbent material before forming said paper web.
- 73. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 72, wherein said superabsorbent material is pre-swollen to at least about 30% of its total swelling capacity.
- 74. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 72, wherein said superabsorbent material is pre-swollen to at least about 50% of its total swelling capacity.
- 75. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein said superabsorbent material has a total swelling capacity of from about 100 to about 350 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material.

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- 76. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, further comprising applying a wet-strength agent, a softening agent, or combinations thereof, to said paper web.
- 77. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein said paper web is dried to a moisture content of less than about 20% by weight of said web.
- 78. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein said paper web is dried to a moisture content of from about 5% to about 15% by weight of said web.
- 79. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein said cellulosic fibrous material and said superabsorbent material are combined before or during the formation of said paper web.
- 80. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein said cellulosic fibrous material and said superabsorbent material are combined in a headbox.
  - 81. (Cancelled)
- 82. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in . claim 70, wherein sald superabsorbent material includes particles, fibers, flakes, filaments, spheres, or combinations thereof.
  - 83. (Cancelled)
- 84. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein said paper web is dried using a through-air dryer.
- 85. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein said superabsorbent material is dried to a moisture content of less than about 50% of the weight of said superabsorbent material.
- 86. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein said superabsorbent material is dried to a moisture content of less than about 25% of the weight of said superabsorbent material.
- 87. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 70, wherein the tissue product contains multiple plies, one of which is formed by said paper web.

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88. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a tissue product, said method comprising:

pre-swelling a <u>particulate</u> superabsorbent material, said superabsorbent material having a total swelling capacity of from about 100 to about 350 grams of an aqueous solution per gram of said superabsorbent material;

forming a paper web from a cellulosic fibrous material and said pre-swollen superabsorbent material, wherein said superabsorbent material comprises from about 0.1% to about 5% by weight of said paper web; and

at least partially drying sald paper web;

wherein the tissue product is formed primarily from said paper web and optionally one or more additional paper webs, the tissue product having a basis weight less than about 100 grams per square meter.

- 89. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 88, wherein said superabsorbent material comprises from about 0.1% to about 3% by weight of said paper web.
- 90. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 88, wherein said superabsorbent material is pre-swollen at least about 30% of its total swelling capacity.
- 91. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 88, wherein said superabsorbent material is pre-swollen to at least about 50% of its total swelling capacity.
- 92. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a tissue product as defined in claim 88, wherein said superabsorbent material is pre-swollen to at least about 70% of its total swelling capacity.
- 93. (Currently Amended) An absorbent tissue product that is formed primarily from one or more paper webs, wherein at least one paper web of the tissue product comprises a cellulosic fibrous material and from about 0.1% to about 5% by weight of a pre-swollen particulate superabsorbent material, wherein the absorbent tissue product has a basis weight less than about 100 grams per square meter.

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- 94. (Previously Presented) An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 93, wherein said superabsorbent material has a moisture content of less than about 50% of the weight of said superabsorbent material.
- 95. (Previously Presented) An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 93, wherein said superabsorbent material has a moisture content of less than about 25% of the weight of said superabsorbent material.
- 96. (Previously Presented) An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 93, wherein the absorbent tissue product contains multiple plies, one of which is formed by said paper web.
- 97. (Previously Presented) An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 93, wherein said pre-swollen superabsorbent material constitutes from about 0.1% to about 3% of said paper web.
- 98. (Previously Presented) An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 93, wherein said paper web is a through-dried web.
- 99. (Previously Presented) An absorbent tissue product as defined in claim 93, wherein said pre-swollen superabsorbent material comprises from about 0.1% to about 3% by weight of said paper web.